

Application No. 09/787,998
Supplemental IDS dated July 19, 2004
Attorney Docket No. 2204-002012
RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116
EXPEDITED EXAMINING PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2600



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/787,998 Confirmation No. 1204
Applicant : HIROFUMI TAKETSU ET AL.
Filed : March 23, 2001
Title : FUEL TANK MADE FROM ALUMINUM COATED STEEL SHEET
Art Unit : 2661
Examiner : Steven Blount
Customer No. : 28289

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P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

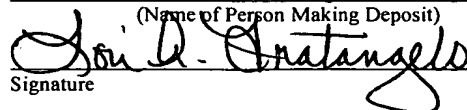
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement together with a completed Form PTO/SB/08A.

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), each item of information contained in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from the Japanese Patent Office in a counterpart Japanese application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 19, 2004.

Lori A. Fratangelo

(Name of Person Making Deposit)



Signature

7/19/04
Date

{W0130670.1}

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The relevancy of the Japanese Patent Application Laid-open Publication Nos. 9-254312 and 60-123347 is indicated in their English-language abstracts. Partial copies of the references and their English-language abstracts are enclosed.

The relevancy of the Japanese Patent Application Laid-open Publication Nos. 10-193507 and 6-306637 is indicated in the Information Disclosure Statement which was filed on February 5, 2002.

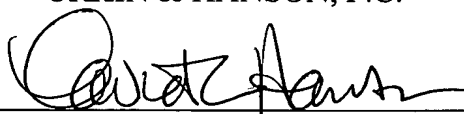
However, each of these Japanese references fails to disclose the features of the Applicants' claimed invention, which employs specific pH range of alkali liquid, specific range of acid value, and specific ratio of substitution of hydrogen.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97(c) and 1.17(p), a fee of \$180.00 is due for the submission of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement as it is being submitted after the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits and before the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance. The Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required to Deposit Account No. 23-0650. One (1) original and two (2) copies of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

WEBB ZIESENHEIM LOGSDON
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By



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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO					
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	09/787,998
				Filing Date	March 23, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Hirofumi TAKETSU
				Group Art Unit	2661
				Examiner Name	Steven Blount
				Attorney Docket Number	2204-002012
Sheet	1	of	1		

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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Commissioner for Patents, P.O.Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.